Molluscan Pathology

A workshop, co-sponsored by the Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources (ILAR), the National Research Council (NRC), and the Registry of Comparative Pathology (RCP), held 3-5 September 1975 at the Wye Institute, Wye Mills, Md.

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> Dante G. Scarpelli, Editor and Chairman Professor and Chairman of Pathology School for Health Sciences University of Kansas Kansas City, Kan.

Aaron Rosenfield, Co-editor Director of Pathobiology Investigations Oxford Laboratory Middle Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Center National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA Oxford, Md.



Scarpelli



Rosenfield





Harshbarger



Migaki

Preface

This workshop was organized to examine certain salient features of the pathology of a few common species of mollusks. Those participating included marine biologists, invertebrate zoologists and pathologists, and a number of vertebrate pathologists with a special interest in the comparative aspects of disease.

D. G. Scarpelli, Chairman

Mollusks are of considerable economic importance in the fishing industry and, collectively, appear to be a major and sensitive indicator of the quality of the offshore marine environment. Thus it is important to learn more about the various proliferative lesions that are increasingly encountered in specimens taken from heavily polluted coastal

waters. The key question, of course, is whether such lesions are "true" neoplasms, capable of autonomous growth, tissue invasion, metastases, and ultimate destruction of the host, or simply tissue responses to injury that are characterized by regenerative proliferation of cells.

Clyde J. Dawe

John C. Harshbarger

George Migaki